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A Case for Change in Montgomery County: A Summary of Trends and Data

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**A Case for Change in Montgomery County:
A Summary of Trends and Data
Prepared by Dayton Together**

Revised: April 14, 2016

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1. Introduction

The purpose of *A Case for Change in Montgomery County: A Summary of Trends and Data* is to frame a conversation around the questions “Do these trends and data, and the conclusions that can be drawn from them, indicate there is a critical need for change in Montgomery County? Will continuing the status quo in collaboration and governance provide for the communities and citizens of Montgomery County a future which is prosperous, equitable, and sustainable?” Without a conviction of a critical need for change by leaders and citizens of the County, it is not possible to have reasonable and civil conversations about a shared vision of how the communities of the county might collaborate in new ways to create a future which is prosperous, equitable, and sustainable.

These trends and data have been prepared by Dayton Together to illustrate its conviction that there is a critical need for change in how the County and its communities are organized. Dayton Together is a 501c4 organization of concerned citizens who have met for the past two years to explore new approaches to the structure of local government that could lead to a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future for all citizens of Montgomery County.

The trends and data of this summary are organized in the following categories:

- Urban Sprawl and Population Loss,
- Growth of Poverty and High Poverty Neighborhoods in the County,
- Weakening Economic Conditions,
- Loss of Local Government Funds and Property Tax Status, and
- Economic and Racial Segregation

The last section of the summary outlines conclusions that can be drawn from the trends and data and makes an argument that there is a critical need for change in Montgomery County,

The Big Picture One

State Support – *Fading Fast*



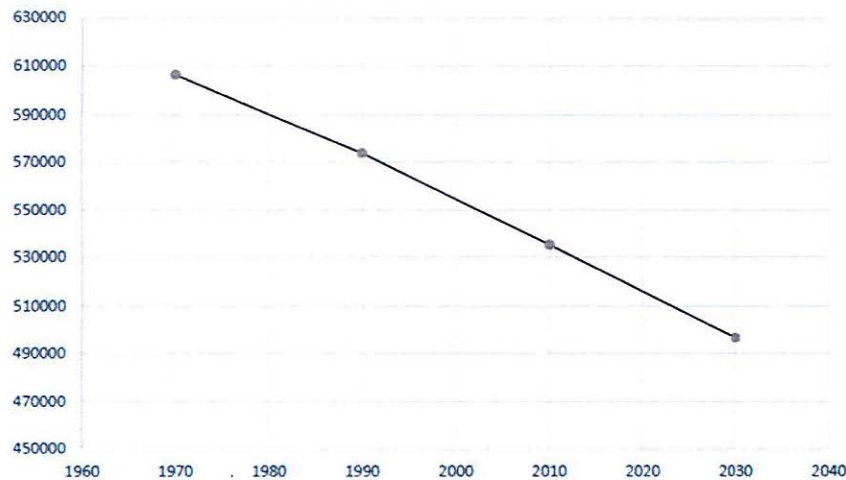
"We're getting out of the local government funding business." -

State Senate
President Keith Faber
2013.

Big Picture Two

The Data Doesn't Lie

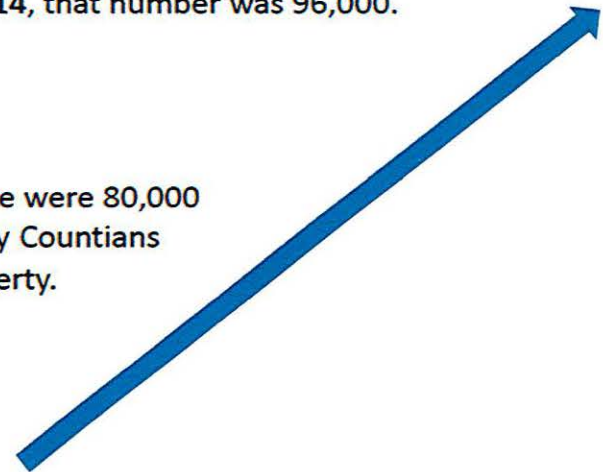
Montgomery County Population Trend
1970 - 2030



Poverty on the Rise

By 2014, that number was 96,000.

In 2009 there were 80,000
Montgomery Countians
living in poverty.



Urban Sprawl in the Greater Dayton

Table 1: Urban Sprawl in Greater Dayton Region

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Change 1950 to 2010
Urban Population	346,864	501,694	606,549	596,134	613,147	723,955	720,393	2.08 times
Urban Area Sq. Miles	66.2	149.0	185.9	253.7	274.1	327.6	340.4	5.14 times
Data from Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission								

Comments:

1. Like most Metropolitan Regions the Dayton Metropolitan Region (Greene, Miami, and Montgomery Counties) has experienced a pattern of urban sprawl.
2. In the Dayton Metropolitan Region the urban population has doubled since 1950 while the urban area has grown by over five times since 1950.
3. Urban sprawl in the Metropolitan Region has a number consequences for Montgomery County.

Population Trends 1970 to 2010

Table 2: Changes in Regional Population 1950 to 2010								
Geographical Area	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	% Change 1970 to 2010
Greene	58,892	94,642	125,057	129,769	136,731	147,886	161,573	29.20%
Miami	61,309	72,901	84,342	90,381	93,182	98,868	102,506	21.54%
Montgomery	398,441	527,080	606,148	571,697	573,809	559,062	535,153	-11.71%
The Region	518,642	694,623	815,547	791,847	803,722	805,816	799,232	-2.00%

Table 3: Changes in Montgomery County Population			
	1970	2010	% Change
Montgomery	606,148	535,153	-11.71%
Dayton	243,459	141,527	-41.87%
Outside	362,689	393,626	8.53%

Comments:

1. Since the peak of the Region's population in 1970 there has been a growth of population in Greene (29%) and Miami (22%) Counties and a loss of population in Montgomery (-12%) County. (Table 2)
2. In Montgomery County, Dayton has lost population at a rate -42% and the suburbs grow in population by 9%.

The Creation of High Poverty Neighborhoods

Poverty Neighborhoods 1970

Poverty Neighborhoods 2013

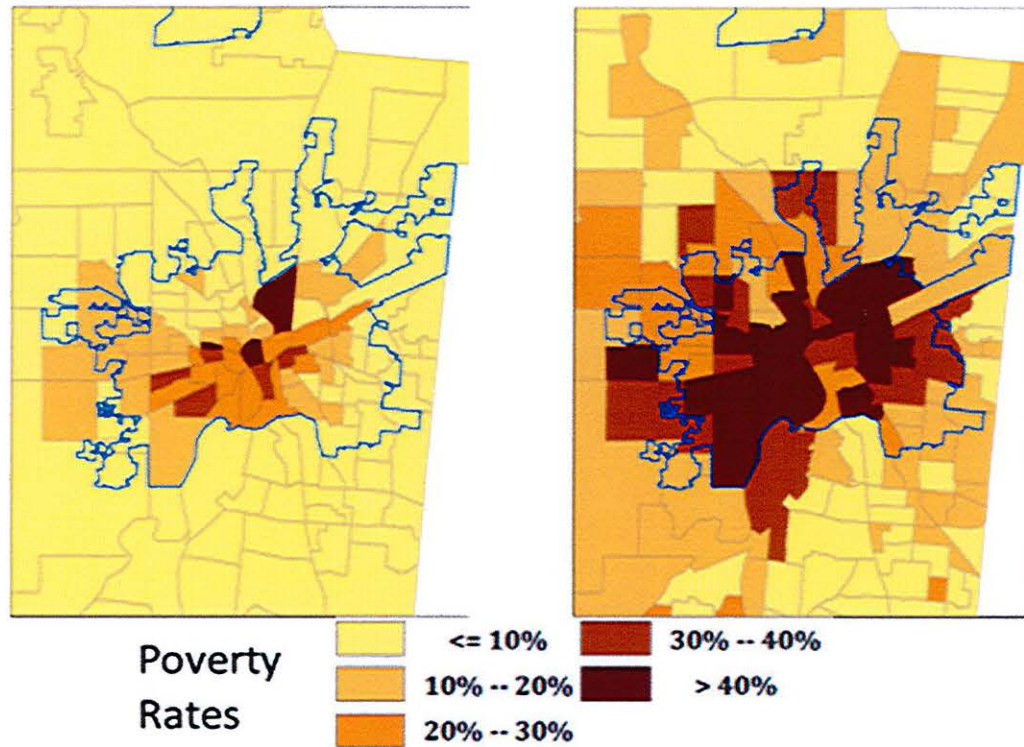


Figure 1: The Growth of High Poverty Neighborhoods

Comments:

1. Figure 1 demonstrates one of the most serious effects of urban sprawl, namely the creation of greater number of poverty neighborhoods (20% or higher) within Montgomery County.

Transition to High Poverty Neighborhoods

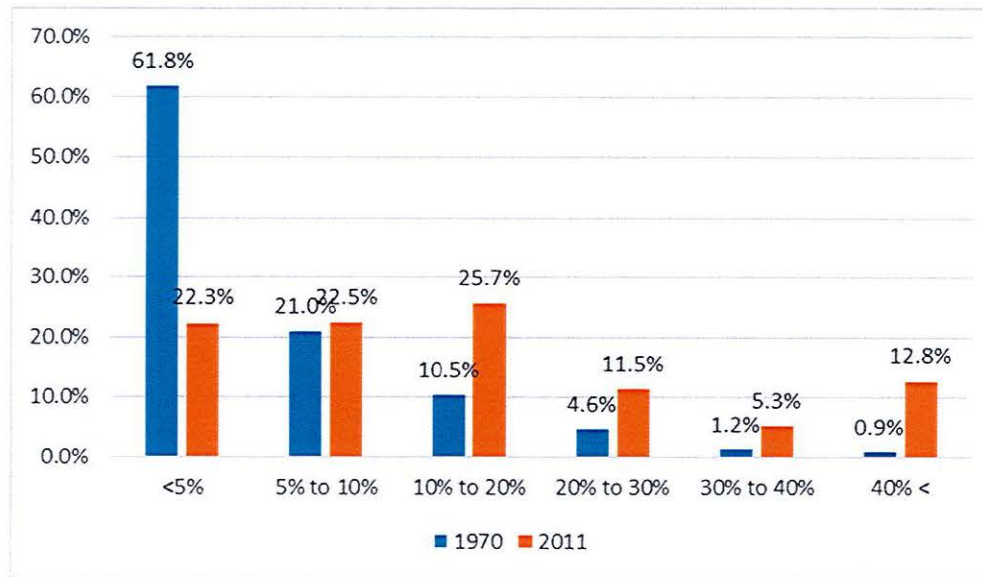


Figure 2: Transition to High Poverty Neighborhoods in Montgomery County

Comments:

1. Figure 2 illustrates the movement to a larger number of poverty neighborhoods within Montgomery County.
2. In 1970 only 6.7% of the population lived in poverty census tracts (20% or greater).
3. In 2011 29.6% of the population lived in poverty census tracts (20% or greater).

Transition to High Poverty Neighborhoods

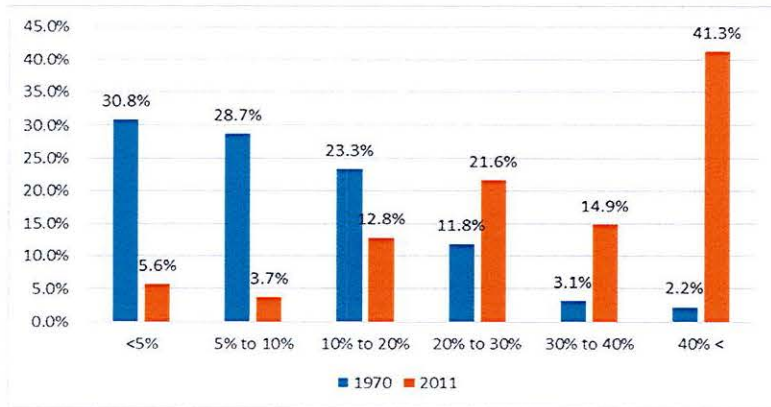


Figure 3: % of Populations in Different Poverty Tracts in the City of Dayton

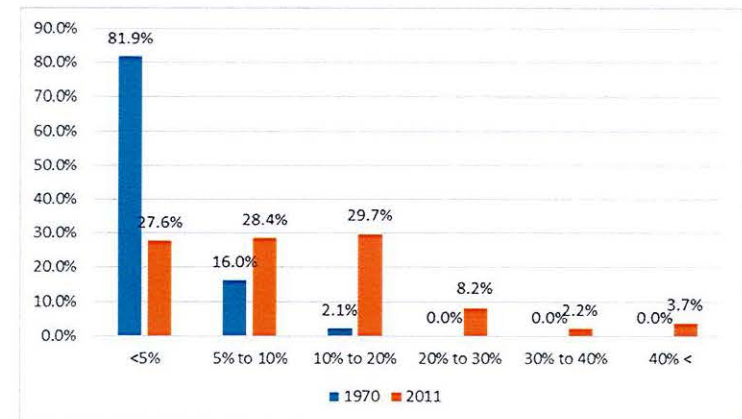


Figure 4: % of Population in Poverty Census Tracts in Dayton Suburbs

Comments:

1. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate how this movement to poverty neighborhoods has affected Dayton and the suburbs.
2. In 1970 17.1% of the population in Dayton lived in poverty census tracts. By 2011 77.8% of the population lived in poverty census tracts (20% and greater).
3. In 1970 there were no poverty census tracts in the suburbs of Dayton. By 2011 14.1% of the population of the Dayton suburbs lived in poverty census tracts (20% or greater).
4. While the movement toward poverty neighborhoods has most adversely affected the City of Dayton, it is clear that there is a growth of poverty neighborhoods in the Dayton suburbs.

Distribution of Race in Poverty Census Tracts

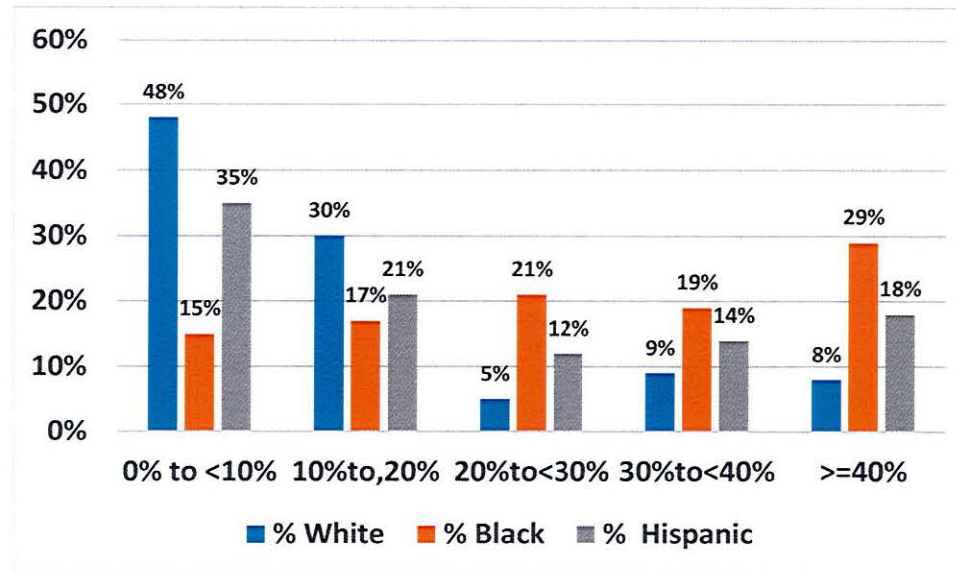


Figure 5: % of Race in Poverty Tracts

Comments:

1. Figure 5 breaks down the distribution of race in the different poverty census tracts (20% and greater).
2. 22% of the white population, 69% of African American population, and 44% of the Hispanic population of the County live in poverty census tracts.
3. 29% of African American population live in extreme poverty census tracts (40% and greater)
4. Figure 5 illustrates that a greater % of people of color reside in poverty census tracts.

Characteristics of Families by Poverty Census Tracts

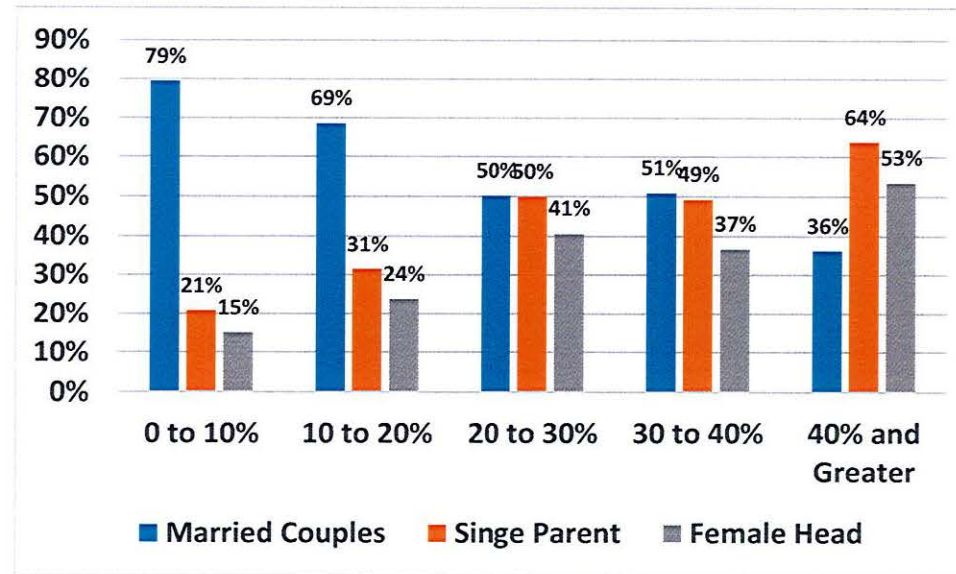


Figure 6: Family Characteristics by Poverty Tracts

Comments:

1. The Family Characteristics vary across the different poverty census tracts.
2. There are more married couples in the lower poverty census and larger number of single parent families in the higher poverty census tracts.
3. A single parent family has a more difficult task of nurturing and supporting child development. Research literature indicates that it is difficult for poor single parents to afford the books, home computers, and private lessons that make it easier for their children to succeed.
4. Compared with continuously married parents, they are less emotionally supportive of their children, have fewer rules, dispense harsher discipline, are more inconsistent in dispensing discipline, provide less supervision, and engage in more conflict with their children.
5. Children living with single parents are exposed to more stressful experiences and circumstances than are children living with continuously married parents.
6. The children in poverty neighborhoods face more barriers to learning and to growing socially and emotionally.

Educational Achievement

Figure 8: Ready for Kindergarten
vs Median Household Income

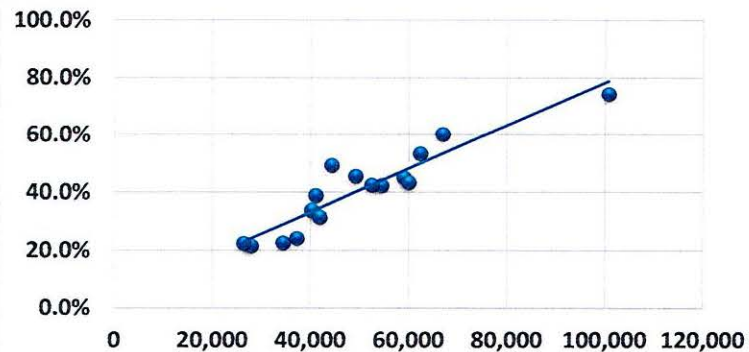


Figure 9: 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency
vs Median Household Income

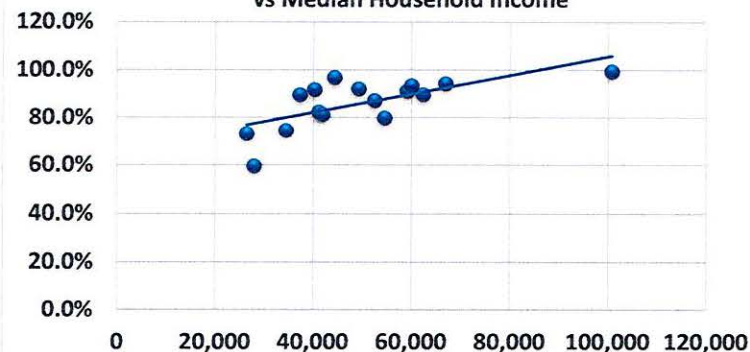
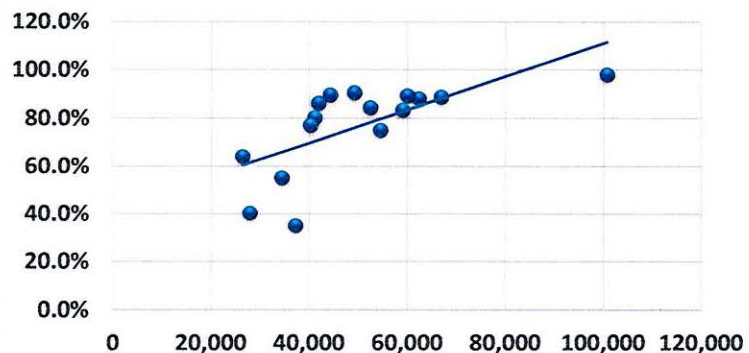


Figure 10: 4th Grade Math. Proficiency
vs Median Household Income



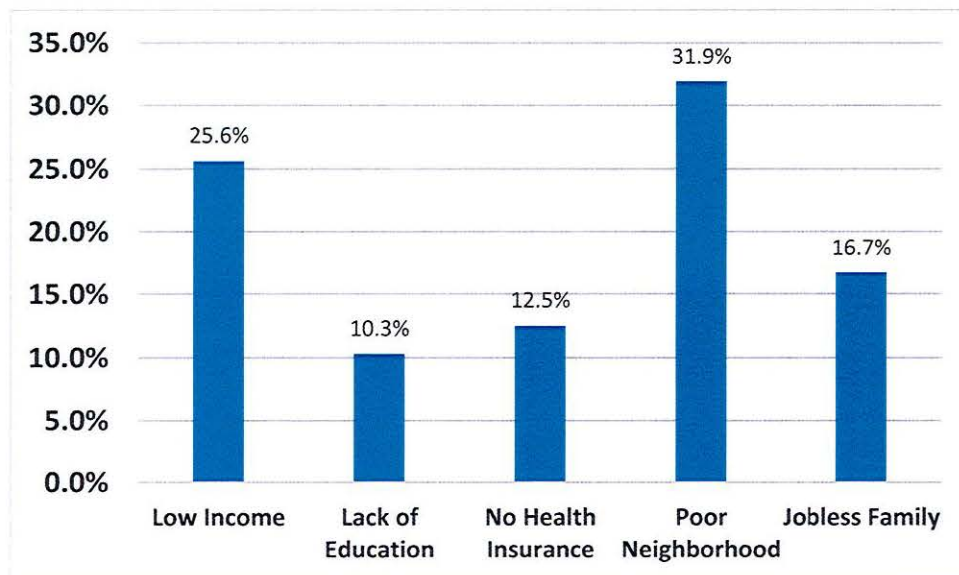
Comments:

The performance data is taken from the Learn to Earn Dayton Report for 2015. The financial data is taken from the ACS for 2009-2014 five year estimates.

Early Learning academic performance is correlated with Median Household Income.

Children in poverty census tracts often come to school 12 to 14 months behind students who grow up in more affluent census tracts.

The Five Evils of Poverty in Montgomery County



Low Income: Percent of 25 to 64 year old population below 150% of Poverty.

Lack of Education: Percent of population over 25 that does not have a high school diploma.

No Health Insurance: Percentage of the 25 to 64 year olds that do not have health insurance.

Poor Neighborhood: Percentage of 25 to 64 year old population that lives in Census tracts with poverty rate greater than 20%.

Jobless Family: Percentage of families with no workers.

Comments:

1. The Brookings Institution identified what they termed "five evils of poverty" in a report entitled *Five Evils: Multidimensional Poverty and Race in America*, by Richard Reeves, Edward Rodrique, and Elizabeth Kneeborn, April 2016.
2. The levels of Low Income, Poor Neighborhoods, and Jobless Families in Montgomery County are higher than metropolitan averages reported by Brookings.
3. The Brookings Report illustrates how these factors have a more adverse impact on people of color.

Loss of Manufacturing Jobs

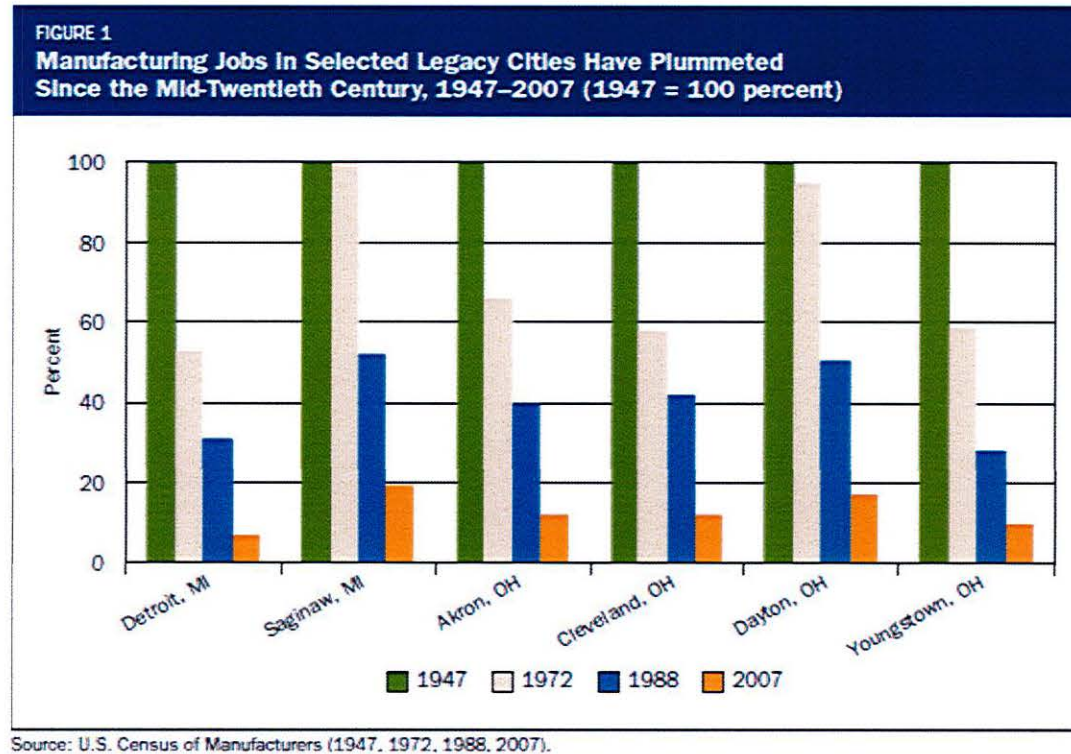


Figure 11: Loss of Manufacturing Jobs in the Rust Belt

Comments:

1. Figure 11 illustrates how “Rust Belt” Metropolitan Regions have lost substantial manufacturing jobs.
2. Montgomery County and the Greater Dayton metro region has lost over 80% of its manufacturing jobs from 1947 to 2007.
3. This loss of manufacturing jobs has an adverse impact on the availability of “living wage Jobs” for Montgomery County.

Manufacturing Employment

Manufacturing Employment Index: Dayton and Cincinnati
Metros compared to Ohio and the U.S., Sept. 2000-2014

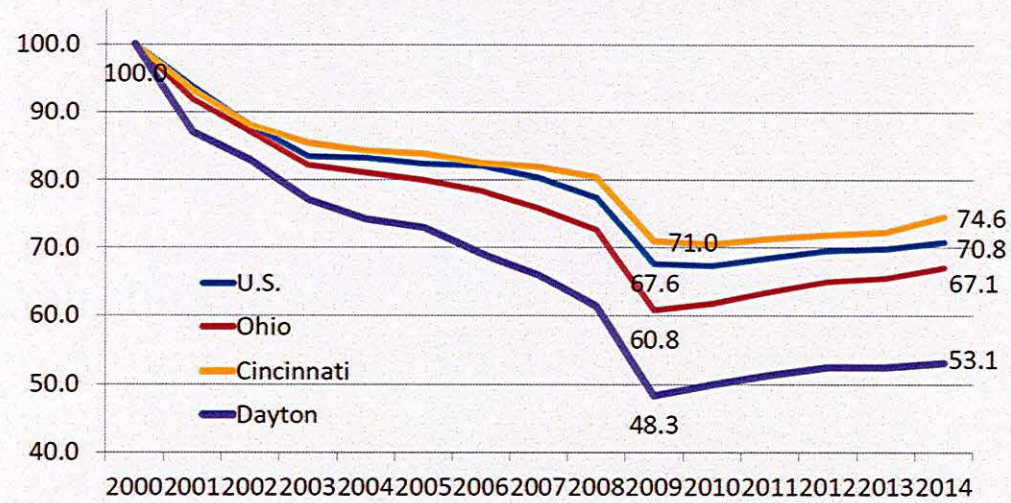


Figure 11: Manufacturing Employment

Comments:

1. While the Dayton Region has gained some manufacturing jobs since the low point of 2009, it has not made the same progress as other Metro Regions in the Midwest.

Average Weekly Earnings

Average Weekly Earnings in Dayton and Cincinnati relative to Ohio and U.S., September 2007-2014 (2014 Constant Dollars)

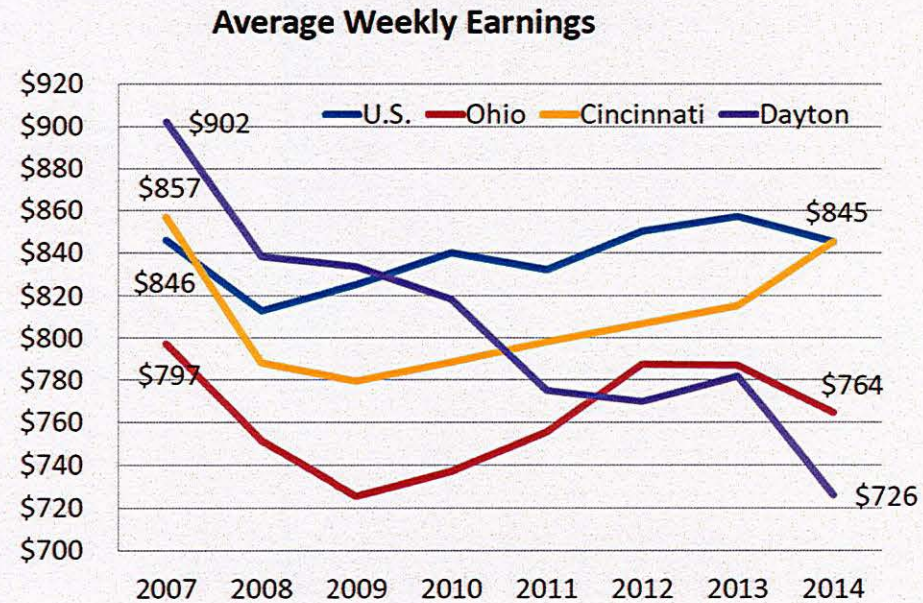


Figure 12: Average Weekly Earnings

Comments:

1. Because of the disappearance of manufacturing job in the greater Dayton region average weekly earnings have declined in a significant manner.

Change in Median Household Income Montgomery County, Ohio

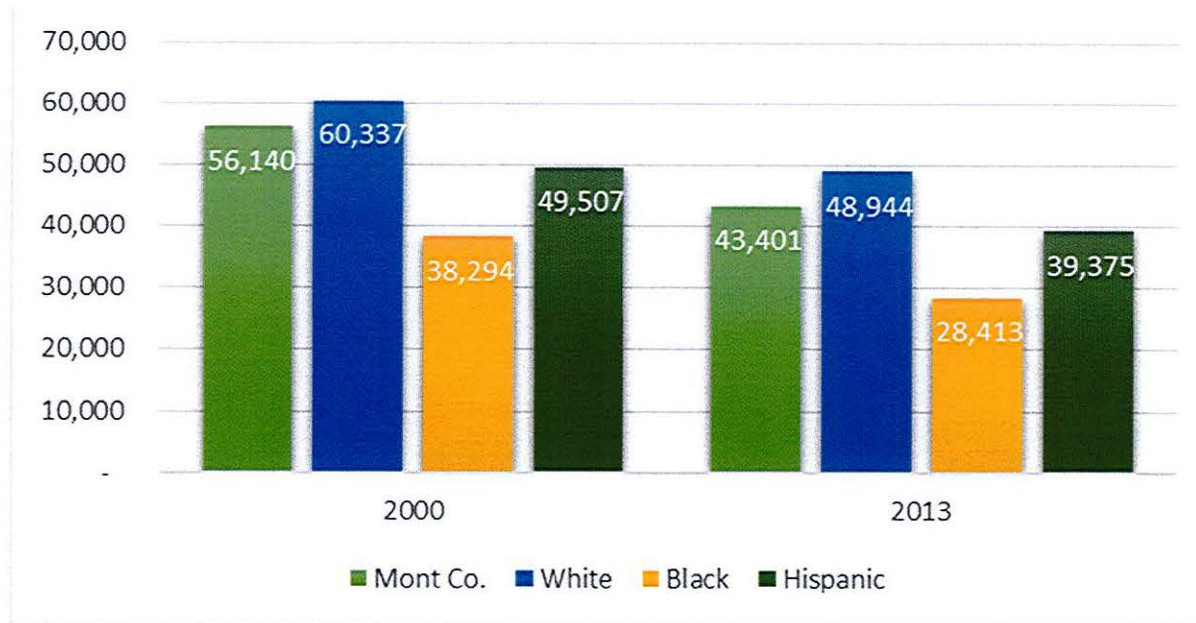


Figure 13: Median Household Income in 2013 Dollars

Comments:

1. Over the past 13 years the Households have seen a steady decline.
2. There is a 23% decline for all households, -19% decline for white household, 25% decline for African American Households, and 20% decline for Hispanic Households.

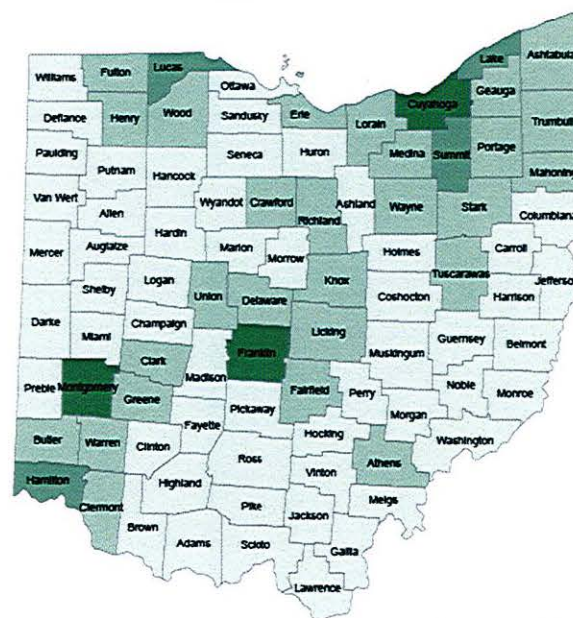
Table 4: Loss of Local Government Funds from the State of Ohio

▲	Previously	Latest	Change		Previously	Latest	Change
Brookville	\$403,184	\$75,431	-\$327,753	Moraine	\$431,362	\$205,214	-\$226,148
Centerville	\$2,190,321	\$315,650	-\$1,874,671	New Lebanon	\$157,659	\$55,130	-\$102,529
Clayton	\$581,559	\$132,783	-\$448,776	Oakwood	\$1,077,203	\$130,827	-\$946,376
Dayton	\$15,144,907	\$8,530,249	-\$6,614,658	Phillipsburg	\$15,779	\$7,508	-\$8,271
Englewood	\$559,121	\$171,021	-\$388,100	Riverside	\$635,742	\$276,502	-\$359,240
Farmersville	\$24,738	\$13,109	-\$11,629	Trotwood	\$926,769	\$300,998	-\$625,771
Germantown	\$234,854	\$63,139	-\$171,715	Union	\$174,746	\$64,974	-\$109,772
Huber Heights	\$1,136,676	\$481,426	-\$655,250	Vandalia	\$643,336	\$262,174	-\$381,162
Kettering	\$3,574,719	\$771,258	-\$2,803,461	West Carrollton	\$479,732	\$187,067	-\$292,665
Miamisburg	\$937,794	\$283,001	-\$654,793				

Comments:

1. Each local jurisdiction will be losing substantial Local Government Funds from the State of Ohio.
2. This will cause great pressure to find cost savings and/or raise local taxes.

Average property tax rates per \$100,000 of home value



Rich Exner, cleveland.com

Comparative Property Tax

Comments:

1. Montgomery County has the second highest property tax rates in the State of Ohio.
2. There is little margin for increasing property tax in Montgomery County.
3. This inability to increase property tax creates a pressure to cut costs of government and become more efficient in delivering and aligning services.

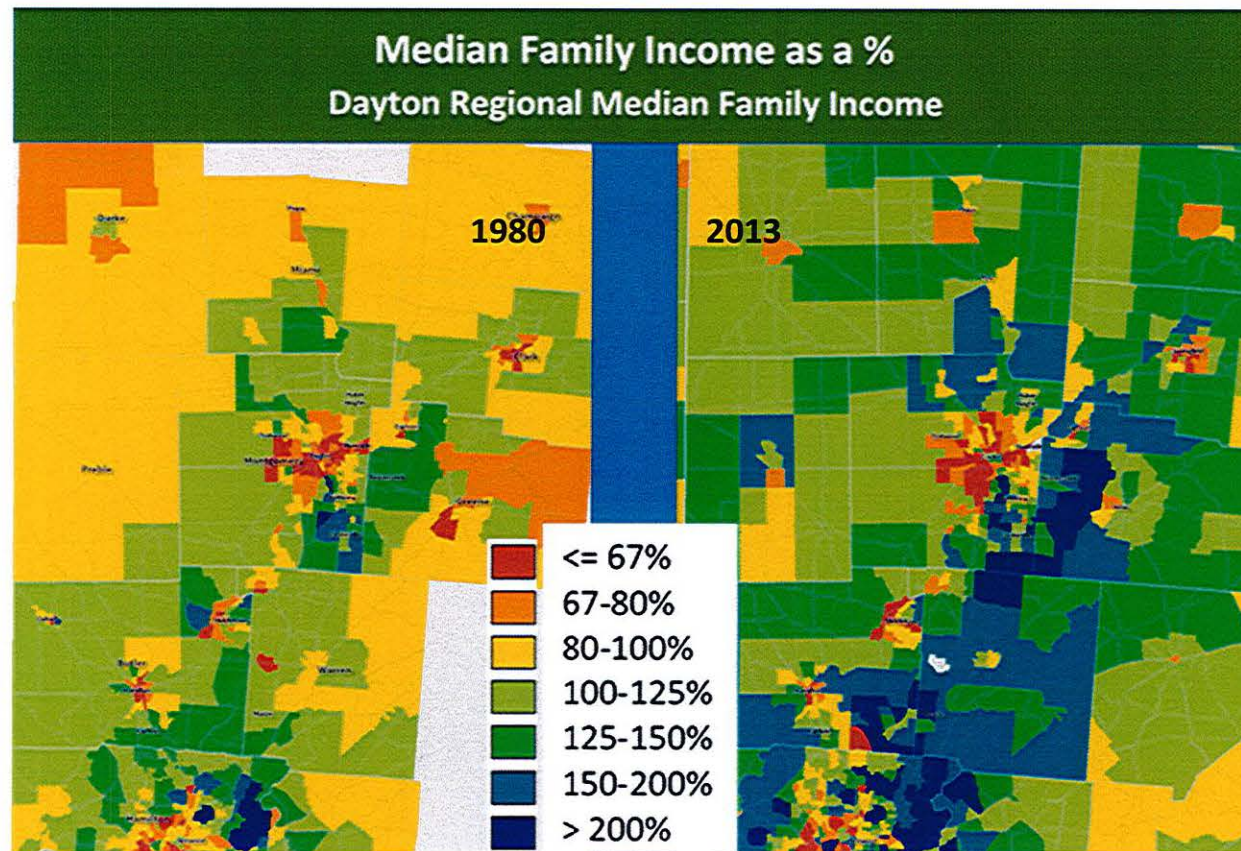


Figure 14: Increased Economic Segregation 1980 to 2013

Economic Segregation

Comments:

1. Figure 14 illustrates how wealth in terms of median family income has changed over the last 33 years.
2. While poverty existed in the urban core neighborhoods in 1980 it has now increased in the urban core and in the first ring suburbs.

3. Affluence has moved away from the urban core. Montgomery County is now more economically segregated than it was 30 years ago.

Economic and Racial Segregation

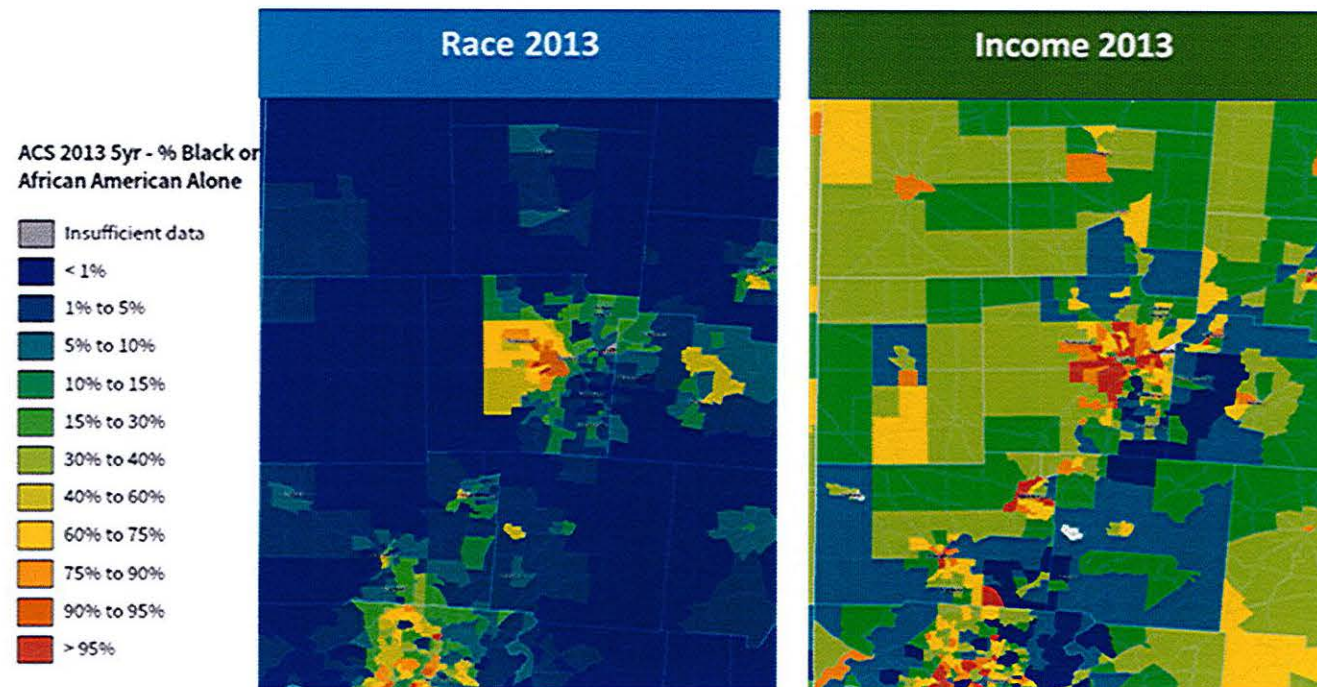


Figure 15: Racial and Economic segregation in Montgomery County

Comments:

1. Figure 15 illustrated how Montgomery County has become more racially and economically segregated.
2. The African American population resides predominately in the western side of Dayton and the County. A large portion of the African American populations resides in high poverty neighborhoods.
3. The White population reside predominately in the east side of Dayton and in the south, north, and east parts of the County.

Summary and Conclusions

This compilation of trends and data has been organized to address two questions:

- Do these trends and data, and the conclusions that can be drawn from them, indicate there is a critical need for change in Montgomery County?
- Will continuing the status quo in collaboration and governance provide for the communities and citizens of Montgomery County a future which is prosperous, equitable, and sustainable?

Reviewing these trends and data Dayton Together believes the following conclusion can be drawn:

1. **Urban Sprawl:** Over the last 40 or more years the Montgomery County has experienced the impact of a pattern of urban sprawl within the greater Dayton metropolitan region. Over this time there has been a population loss for Montgomery County of 2%; a population loss in the City of Dayton of 42% and a population gain in the Dayton suburbs of 9%.
2. **Growth in Poverty Neighborhoods:** The pattern of urban sprawl has increased the number of poverty census tracts (20% and greater) in Montgomery County. In 1970 only 6.7% of the County's population lived in poverty census tracts; by 2011 29.6% of the County's population lived poverty census tracks.
3. **Growth of Poverty in the City of Dayton:** The greatest increase in the population living in poverty census tracts is in the City of Dayton. In 1970 17.1% of the City of Dayton population lived poverty census tracts; in 2011 77.8% of the City of Dayton population lived in poverty census tracts (20% or greater).
4. **Growth of Poverty in the Suburbs:** The growth of poverty neighborhoods has impacted Dayton's suburbs. In 1970 none of the suburban population lived in poverty census tracts, by 2011 14.1 percent of the Dayton's suburban population lived in poverty census tracts.
5. **Poverty and People of Color:** Within Montgomery County there is a high percentage of the African American population and the Hispanic population living in poverty census tracts. 22% of County's white population, 69% of African Americans population, and 44% of the Hispanic population of the County live in poverty census tracts. 29% of African American population live in extreme poverty census tracts (40% and greater),
6. **Poverty, Families, and Children:** Poverty census tracts have a higher percentage of single parent families. Children raised in single parent families are often at a disadvantage with respect for family supports for learning and social-emotional development. Children living in single parent families more often experience more stress within their family and in their

neighborhoods. Living in a poverty neighborhood has a detrimental effect on child's cognitive and social-emotional development.

7. **Poverty and Education:** The performance of students in Kindergarten Readiness, 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency, and 4th Grade Math Proficiency are correlated with median household income of the population in the School District. Poverty contributes to this situation in several ways: the lack of family support of child development, the adverse neighborhood environment for learning and development, and the poor performance of the school system. Children in poverty neighborhoods have many road blocks to obtaining a college degree or an appropriate career credential.
8. **Decline in Manufacturing:** The greater Dayton region has lost more than 80% of its manufacturing jobs. While there has been some gains in manufacturing jobs in recent years, the region has not performed as strongly as many other regions in the Midwest.
9. **Decline in Living Wage Jobs:** This loss of manufacturing jobs has precipitated the loss of living wage jobs. Over the past 13 years Montgomery County residents have experienced 23% decline in median household income. For white families this decline has been 19%, African American families the decline has been 25% and for Hispanic families a decline of 20%.
10. **Loss of Local Government Funds:** The State of Ohio Legislature has substantially cut the Local Government Fund. These cuts represent over 17 million dollars of lost revenue for the jurisdictions within Montgomery County. This will create pressure to cut the cost of government and to become more efficient in the delivery and aligning of resources.
11. **High Property Tax Rate:** Montgomery County has the 2nd highest property tax rate in the State of Ohio. Again this will create pressure to cut the cost of government and to become more efficient in the delivery and aligning of resources.
12. **Growth in Economic and Racial Segregation:** Economic and racial segregation of Montgomery County has increased over the past 30 years. This economic and racial segregation has created a gap of experience between different economic classes and racial groups in Montgomery County. This social separation has reduced the opportunities to interact with each other, to share different experiences, and through conversation develop a common perspective on the issues of Montgomery County. Economic and racial segregation has been pulling the Montgomery County community apart and making the citizens and communities less capable of developing a shared vision of prosperity, equity, and sustainability for the whole County. This social separation has also caused some in our community to become indifferent to the sufferings of families and children in our poverty neighborhoods.

13. **Segregation and Economic Mobility:** Recent research studies have indicated that high degrees of economic segregation has a negative impact on the economic mobility of people in the poverty neighborhoods¹. These studies indicated that economic mobility is shaped not only by the gap between the poorest and richest residents of a metropolitan area, but how the richest and the poorest are sorted into different neighborhoods. “In an economically segregated city (metropolitan region), growing up in poverty means living in a neighborhood that offers lower quality schools, few economic opportunities, and more violence. For those at the top end of the income distribution, growing up in a wealthy family means attending well-resourced schools, having access to economic opportunities through advantaged social networks, and be being shielded from the social problems that arise in poorer communities.”²
14. **Segregation and Economic Growth:** Other research studies have indicated that economic segregation has damaging effects on the economic growth of the metropolitan region.³ A key factor is skill complementarity, i.e., which refers to the ratio of high- and low-skilled workers necessary for an economy to exhibit optimal grow. Research have found that residential segregation has a negative effect on the overall economic welfare of cities in large part because it acts as a barrier to skills complementarity, which drives income growth across all economic levels downward.
15. **Montgomery County at a Critical Turning Point:** All of the members of Dayton Together are deeply convinced that the trends and data outlined in this *Case for Change* indicated that Montgomery County is at a critical turning point. Keeping the status quo in the structures of collaboration and governance will only lead to a dysfunction and polarized future for the County. The members of Dayton Together believe this is the critical time to seriously begin creating new structures of collaboration and governance by which the communities of the County works toward economic development, workforce development, educational excellence, and the eradication of poverty. If we have the courage and the perseverance to create new structures of collaboration and governance our Montgomery County Community can build a shared future that is more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable for all its citizens.

¹ A good summary of this research is summarized in the Pew Charitable Trusts Economic Mobility Project <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/archived-projects/economic-mobility-project>.

² Patrick Sharkey, *Rich Neighborhoods, Poor Neighborhoods: How Segregation Threatens Social Mobility*, <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/social-mobility-memos/posts/2013/12/04-how-segregation-threatens-mobility>.

³ A good reference for this work can be found in Corey Chan’s *Separate and Suffering: The Damaging Effect of Residential Segregation on Metropolitan Economies*, <http://chicagopolicyreview.org/2014/01/29/separate-and-suffering-the-damaging-effects-of-residential-segregation-on-metropolitan-economies/>.
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